

Casualty Theme

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Themes

Violence and Innocence : Violence during "*The Troubles*" in Ireland is the major theme of this poem. The fisherman was killed just because he wanted a drink and broke the curfew. He did not mean harm. He was not political or violent. But he still became a "**casualty**." The poem shows how ordinary, innocent people suffered and died in a time of political conflict.

Friendship and Respect : The poem shows a deep friendship between Heaney and the fisherman. The poet admires the man's quiet and hardworking nature. Even though they come from different worlds — one educated, one simple — Heaney respects him deeply. After the fisherman's death, Heaney feels pain and loss. This theme teaches us that true friendship is built on understanding and respect, not social class or education.